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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/444,121	11/19/1999	SANAA F. ABDELHADI	AUS990796US1	8236

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, CHAU T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2142

DATE MAILED: 11/20/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/444,121

Applicant(s)

ABDELHADI ET AL.

Examiner

Chau Nguyen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 September 2002.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 2-35 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 2-35 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Amendment C, received on 09/03/2002, has been entered. Claims 2-35 are presented for examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 2-7, and 19-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being unpatentable by Brobst et al. (Brobst), Patent No. 6,061,700, Dubbels et al. (Dubbels), Patent No. 6,222,634, and further in view of Hoffert et al (Hoffert), Patent No. 6,282,549.

4. As to claim 2, Brobst teaches the invention as claimed, a method in data processing system for printing web pages, the method comprising the data processing system implemented steps of:

receiving a request a web page; (col. 3, lines 12-40; receives a web page request, then prints related web pages);

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printing the web page and each web page associated with the web page (Abstract);

wherein the printing step prints each of a plurality of web pages associated with the web page on selected levels below the web page (col. 5, line 42 – col. 6 line 42: printing the web page that includes any nested levels below the web page);

However, Brobst does not teach the printing step automatically and individually prints each of a plurality of web pages. Dubbels teaches a web page print mechanism automatically generating a web page that contains all the user-selected web pages and a web client print mechanism 320 that is used to print individual web pages (claim 1, and col. 5, lines 21-40). Since Dubbels teaches these limitations in an environment such as a system for printing related web pages (levels below a selected web page) which is similar to the system of Brobst, thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the Data Processing art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Brobst and Dubbels to include the printing step automatically and individually prints each of a plurality of web pages in order to make the system more efficient.

Brobst and Dubbels teach the limitations as discussed above. However, Brobst-Dubbels do not teach if a first web page of the plurality appears more than once among the plurality, the first web page is only printed once. In the same field of endeavor, Hoffert teaches a hash table scheme is used to guarantee that only unique new URLs

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(web pages) are added to the database and if any URL link that is already found in the hash table, the URL is not added to the list of URLs for processing (col. 3, line 28 – col. 4, line 23). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Brobst-Dubbels and Hoffert to include a first web page of the plurality appears more than once among the plurality, the first web page is only printed once. By doing so, it would prevent printing duplicate data and also prevent the waste or loss of time and papers.

5. As to claim 3, Brobst-Dubbels-Hoffert teach the printing step comprising: sending the web page and each web page associated with the web page on selected levels below the web page to a printer (Brobst, col. 3, line 66 – col. 4, line 11).

6. As to claim 4, Brobst-Dubbels-Hoffert teach the printing step comprising: sending the web page and each web page associated with the web page on selected levels below the web page to a display device (Brobst, col. 3, line 66 – col. 4, line 11).

7. As to claim 5, Brobst-Dubbels-Hoffert teach the printing step comprising: sending the web page and each web page associated with the web page on selected levels below the web page to a file (Brobst, col. 3, line 66 – col. 4, line 11).

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8. As to claim 6, Brobst-Dubbels-Hoffert teach the data processing system is a client computer (Brobst, col. 2, line 59 – col. 3, line 11; also note Fig. 2; workstation 200).

9. As to claim 7, Brobst-Dubbels-Hoffert teach the data processing system is a web server (Brobst, col. 2, line 59 – col. 3, line 11; also note Fig. 2; web server 220).

10. As to claim 19, Brobst teaches the invention as claimed, a data processing system for printing web pages, the data processing system comprising:

receiving means for receiving a request to print a web page (col. 3, lines 12-40);

printing means for printing the web page and each web page associated with the web page on selected levels below the web page (Abstract; each web page and related pages to the web page are printed).

However, Brobst does not teach the printing step automatically and individually prints each of a plurality of web pages. Dubbels teaches a web page print mechanism automatically generating a web page that contains all the user-selected web pages and a web client print mechanism 320 that is used to print individual web pages (claim 1, and col. 5, lines 21-40). Since Dubbels teaches these limitations in an environment such as a system for printing related web pages (levels below a selected web page) which is similar to the system of Brobst, thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the Data Processing art at the time of the invention to combine the

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teachings of Brobst and Dubbels to include the printing step automatically and individually prints each of a plurality of web pages in order to make the system more efficient.

Brobst and Dubbels teach the limitations as discussed above. However, Brobst-Dubbels do not teach if a first web page of the plurality appears more than once among the plurality, the first web page is only printed once. In the same field of endeavor, Hoffert teaches a hash table scheme is used to guarantee that only unique new URLs (web pages) are added to the database and if any URL link that is already found in the hash table, the URL is not added to the list of URLs for processing (col. 3, line 28 – col. 4, line 23). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Brobst-Dubbels and Hoffert to include a first web page of the plurality appears more than once among the plurality, the first web page is only printed once. By doing so, it would prevent printing duplicate data and also prevent the waste or loss of time and papers.

11. As to claim 20, Brobst teaches the invention as claimed, printing means comprises sending means for sending the web page and each web page associated with the web page on selected levels below the web page to a printer (col. 6, line 54 – col. 7, line 19).

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12. As to claim 21, Brobst-Dubbels-Hoffert teach printing means comprises sending means for sending the web page and each web page associated with the web page on selected levels below the web page to a display device (Brobst, col. 6, line 54 – col. 7, line 19).

13. As to claim 22, Brobst-Dubbels-Hoffert teach printing means comprises sending means for sending the web page and each web page associated with the web page on selected levels below the web page to a file (Brobst, col. 6, line 54 – col. 7, line 19).

14. As to claim 23 Brobst-Dubbels-Hoffert teach the data processing system is a client computer (Brobst, col. 2, line 59 – col. 3, line 11; also note Fig. 2; workstation 200).

15. As to claim 24, Brobst-Dubbels-Hoffert teach the data processing system is a web server (Brobst, col. 2, line 59 – col. 3, line 11; also note Fig. 2; web server 200).

16. Claims 8-14, 25-31, and 33-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being unpatentable by Brobst et al. (Brobst), Patent No. 6,061,700 and further in view of Hoffert et al (Hoffert), Patent No. 6,282,549.

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17. As to claim 8, Brobst teaches the invention as claimed, a method in data processing system for printing web pages, the method comprising the data processing system implemented steps of:

responsive to an input selecting a current web page, determining whether a maximum depth for printing has been reached (col. 5, lines 42-67; on one selected web page, a user defines the nesting level, determines the depth into the nesting tree 400);

identifying a set of universal resource identifiers located within the current web page in response to the maximum depth being unreached (col. 6, line 54 – col. 7, line 19; when all web pages and their digging levels have been defined, a URL list of the web pages and the associated digging level is created);

retrieving the web page identified by the set of uniform resource locators (col. 7, lines 29-60; for each URL in the URL list, the URL is added to the URL container for retrieving);

printing each web page retrieved (col. 6, line 54 – col. 7, line 19; appending all related web pages together and print them);

However, Brobst does not teach wherein each web page retrieved is represented in a hash table, and wherein if a web page appears more than once in the hash table, the web page is only printed once. In the same field of endeavor, Hoffert teaches a hash table scheme is used to guarantee that only unique new URLs (web pages) are added to the database and if any URL link that is already found in the hash table, the URL is not added to the list of URLs for processing (col. 3, line 28 – col. 4, line 23). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

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invention was made to combine the teachings of Brobst and Hoffert to include each web page retrieved is represented in a hash table, and wherein if a web page appears more than once in the hash table, the web page is only printed once. By doing so, it would prevent printing duplicate data and also prevent the waste or loss of time and papers.

18. As to claim 9, Brobst-Hoffert teach the invention as claimed, repeating the determining, identifying, retrieving, and printing steps for each web page until the maximum depth has been reached (Brobst, col. 6, line 54 – col. 7, line 19; Also note Fig. 6, 7, 8 and 9).

19. As to claim 10, Brobst-Hoffert teach the invention as claimed, printing step comprises sending each web page to an output device (Brobst, col. 3, line 55 – col. 4, line 11).

20. As to claim 11, Brobst-Hoffert teach the invention as claimed, the output device is a printer (Brobst, col. 3, line 55 – col. 4, line 11).

21. As to claim 12, Brobst-Hoffert teach the invention as claimed, the output device is a display device (Brobst, col. 3, line 55 – col. 4, line 11).

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22. As to claim 13, Brobst-Hoffert teach the invention as claimed, the data processing system is a client computer (Brobst, col. 2, line 59 – col. 3, line 11; also note Fig. 2; workstation 200).

23. As to claim 14, Brobst-Hoffert teach the invention as claimed, the data processing system is a web server (Brobst, col. 2, line 59 – col. 3, line 11; also note Fig. 2; web server 220).

24. Claims 25-31, 33-35 are corresponding system and product claims containing the similar limitations as the methods described in claims 8-14; therefore, they are rejected under the same rationale.

25. Claims 15 and 32 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brobst et al (Brobst) and Hoffert et al. (Hoffert) as discussed above, and further in view of Dubbels et al (Dubbels), Patent No. 6,222,634.

26. As to claim 15, Brobst-Hoffert teach the invention as claimed, the determining, identifying, retrieving, and printing steps are performed (col. 6, line 54 – col. 7, line 19; Also note Fig. 6, 7, 8 and 9). However, Brobst and Hoffert do not teach the determining, identifying, and retrieving steps are performed in a web server and wherein the printing step is performed in a client computer. Dubbels teaches a web page parsing and linking mechanism 350 is performed in a web server, and printing mechanism is performed in a web client (col. 5, line 40 – col. 6, line 61). Since Dubbels teaches these

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limitations in an environment such as a system for printing related web pages (levels below a selected web page) which is similar to the system of Brobst, thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the Data Processing art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Brobst and Dubbels to include the determining, identifying, and retrieving steps are performed in a web server and wherein the printing step is performed in a client computer in order to make the system more efficient.

27. Claim 32 is corresponding system claim containing the similar limitations as the methods described in claim 15; therefore, it is rejected under the same rationale.

28. Claims 16-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brobst et al (Brobst), Narayanaswami et al (Narayanaswami), UK Patent Application No. 2,332,543, and further in view of Hoffert et al. (Hoffert), Patent No. 6,282,549.

29. As to claim 16, Brobst teaches the invention as claimed, a method for printing items comprising the data processing system implemented steps of:

receiving a request to print a current item, wherein additional items are associated with the current item in relationship in which the additional items are on levels below the current item (col. 5, lines 42-67; on one selected web page, a user defines the nesting level, determines the depth into the nesting tree 400);

printing the current item (col. 2, line 59 – col. 3, line 40);

However, Brobst does not teach determining whether additional items on levels below the current item are to be printed and responsive to a determination that additional items are to be printed, printing the additional items. Narayanaswami teaches a user is able to select from a listing of the hyperlinks available on a target page for subsequent print selection such as print current page, print to level, print designated selections, and print "All But" selection (Abstract; Also note page 12, lines 7 – line 46). Since Narayanaswami teaches these limitations in an environment such as a system for printing Internet document which is similar to the system of Brobst, thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the Data Processing art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Brobst and Narayanaswami to include determining whether additional items on levels below the current item are to be printed and responsive to a determination that additional items are to be printed, printing the additional items in order to make the system more efficient.

Brobst and Narayanaswami disclose all the limitations as discussed above. However, Brobst and Narayanaswami do not disclose wherein if a first item appears more than once among the additional items, the first item is only printed once. In the same field of endeavor, Hoffert teaches a hash table scheme is used to guarantee that only unique new URLs (web pages) are added to the database and if any URL link that is already found in the hash table, the URL is not added to the list of URLs for processing (col. 3, line 28 – col. 4, line 23). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Brobst and Narayanaswami and Hoffert to include wherein if a first item appears more

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than once among the additional items, the first item is only printed once. By doing so, it would prevent printing duplicate data and also prevent the waste or loss of time and papers.

30. As to claim 17, Brobst-Narayanaswami-Hoffert teach the invention as claimed, the items are web pages associated using universal resource identifiers (Brobst, col. 7, lines 29-59).

31. As to claim 18, Brobst-Narayanaswami-Hoffert teach the invention as claimed, the items are files associated using directories (Brobst, col. 3, line 66 – col. 4, line 11).

Response to Arguments

32. In the remarks, Application argued in substance that

(a) Prior arts do not appear to teach alleviation of situations wherein selection of web pages for printing results in redundant printing.

As to point (a), Narayanaswami teaches a user allows to interactively select pages to be printed at each level or select a depth of web pages to be printed. A user also can mark the pages which the user wishes to print, and make other selections such as whether to include additional items such as graphic files associated with the selected pages (Abstract, and page 12, lines 7-46).

33. Applicant's arguments and amendments filed on 08/28/2002 have been fully considered but they are not deemed fully persuasive. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 2, 8, 16, 19, 25, 33, and 34 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection as explained here below, necessitated by Applicant's substantial amendment (i.e., each web page retrieved is represented in a hash table, and if a web page appears more than once in the hash table, said web page is only printed once) to the claims which significantly affected the scope thereof.

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chau Nguyen whose telephone number is (703) 305-4639. The examiner can normally be reached at 8:00 am – 5:00 pm Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Rinehart can be reached on (703) 305-4815. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 746-7239. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3230.

Any response to this final action should be mailed to:

Box AF

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
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Or Faxed to:

(703) 746-7239, (for **formal communications**; please mark
"EXPEDITE PROCEDURE").

Or:

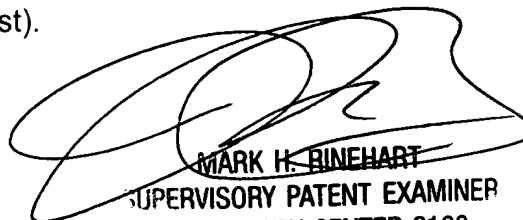
(703) 746-7240 (for **informal or draft communications**, please label
"PROPOSED" or "DRAFT").

Or:

(703) 746-7238 (for **After Final Communications**).

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal
Drive, Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Chau Nguyen
Patent Examiner
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